

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 16, line 21 and ending at page 17, line 12 to read, as follows.

--Registration correcting pattern images (i.e., misregister detecting images) formed on the intermediate transfer belt 31 by the photosensitive drums 11a to 11d in response to a signal from a registration correcting pattern generating portion 81 in the control portion 80 are read by the register sensor (detection means) 60 serving as misregister detection means composed of a light emitting element and a light receiving element, so that out of color registrations, i.e., registration errors (or misregisters) on the photosensitive drums 11a to 11d corresponding to the respective colors are detected. The control portion 80 [[8]] functions as a misregister correcting means to make an electrical correction on an image signal to be recorded or to correct variations in the optical path lengths or variations in the optical paths by driving the turn-back mirrors 16a to 16d provided in the optical paths of the laser beams.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 29, line 7 and ending at page 29, line 16 to read, as follows.

--As an example, it is assumed that the number of dots m in the main scanning direction X of a small dot area included in the dot pattern is 8, the number of dots n in the sub-scanning direction Y of a dot area is 6 and the number of shift [[shit]] dots k is 1. In addition, in this embodiment, the number of dots included in a dot toner image formed in a dot area is only one, and that dot is at the position represented by (main scanning direction X, sub-scanning direction Y) = (3, 0) within the dot area.--